



Library

FYLDE RURAL DISTRICT

Annual REPORT

on the
Public Health and
Housing Conditions
for the year

1959



C. ROBERTSON WILSON, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.(Edin.),
Medical Officer of Health

H. GRAHAM, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector *Kirkham 2226*

COUNCIL OFFICES,
WESHAM, KIRKHAM

FYLDE RURAL DISTRICT

Annual REPORT

on the
Public Health and
Housing Conditions
for the year

1959

C. ROBERTSON WILSON, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.(Edin.),
Medical Officer of Health

H. GRAHAM, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector *Kirkham 2226*

COUNCIL OFFICES,
WESHAM, KIRKHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the year 1959



To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year, 1959.

Taking the Vital Statistics first, the Birth Rate is up from 18.1 to 21.1 per thousand population, while the Death Rate is down from 15.5 to 11.3 per thousand. The Infant Mortality Rate has fallen from 14.2 to 10 per thousand live births and no mother has lost her life in childbirth. All quite satisfactory figures.

Of the 218 deaths, 123 were due to diseases of the heart and circulation and 20 to malignant growths, all complaints mainly associated with advancing years. In fact it is evident from the month by month reports to the Health Committee that most of our population lives to a good age.

It is unfortunate to see that eight deaths were due to accidental causes and five of these were specifically caused by motor accidents. It has, however, to be borne in mind that a long stretch of one of the busiest and fastest main roads in this country traverses the Rural District.

In my last report I commented that Measles had started during the autumn months and was still with us at the close of the year. There were 334 cases in this outbreak during 1959. Whooping cough also claimed 43 cases. This has become a much milder affliction to those who have accepted the immunising injections available in early childhood.

There were 38 cases of Dysentery, but many of those were notifications from the R.A.F. in the area and dealt with by their medical staff.

Fifty-eight cases of Food Poisoning were notified, but over 40 of these were in an outbreak in an industrial canteen. Not everyone had eaten the same meat, but the basis of the gravy in all cases was the same stock pot. The causal organism was established to have been *Clostridium Welchii*. The remaining cases were sporadic and investigation did not yield much information in the majority of them.

Another clearance area was confirmed during the year following the usual procedure of inspections and representation.

There has been trouble during the year with the non-pasteurised milk supply, a number of cases of infection of the supply with *Brucella Abortus* having come to notice. This organism causes the disease Undulant Fever in human beings and is a cause of abortion in cattle. The testing of milk specimens which has brought to light these cases is done at the new Public Health Laboratory at Preston, from which we get a most helpful service.

My continuing thanks is due to my colleagues in the Health Department for their ready help and co-operation; to the Clerk of the Council; and to the Health Committee members for their interest.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	...	33,264
Population ...	...	...	...	...	...	17,670
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1959)	...				...	3,728
Rateable value at 1.4.59	...	...	...	...	...	£181,342
Amount produced by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£720

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS.

Three hundred and one Births, 152 males and 149 females, were registered during the year. The birth rate of 21.1 compares with the rate of 18.1 per 1,000, in 1958. Five of the births were illegitimate.

STILLBIRTHS.

There were three male and four female stillbirths during the year, making a stillbirth rate of 22.7 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths compared with a rate of 27.7 per 1,000 in 1958.

DEATHS.

Two hundred and eighteen deaths, 96 males and 122 females, were registered during the year. The death rate at 11.3 per 1,000 compares with a rate of 15.5 per 1,000 in 1958.

Mortality Rates per 1,000 estimated population—

Total (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Crude rate	...	...	...	...	...	13.0
Adjusted rate	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
Respiratory T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Malignant neoplasms, etc. (Cols. 10—15 incl. of S.D. 30)	...	...	...	...	...	1.25
Live birth rates per 1,000 estimated population—						
Crude rate	...	...	...	...	...	17.9
Adjusted rate	...	...	...	...	...	21.1
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 <i>total</i> births	...	...	...	...	...	22.7
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 <i>total</i> births	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 <i>live</i> births	...	...	...	...	...	10.0
Neo-Natal mortality rate per 1,000 <i>live</i> births	...	...	...	...	...	6.6
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 <i>live</i> births	...	...	...	...	...	6.6
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 <i>total</i> births	...	...	...	...	...	29.2

CAUSES OF DEATH

The table below shows the causes of death of Rural District residents in 1959 —

<i>Cause of Death</i>			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—	—

<i>Cause of Death</i>					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cancer of stomach	...	...	...	...	1	6	7
„ respiratory tract	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
„ breast	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
„ all other sites	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	10	24	34
Heart Disease (Angina)	...	...	...	...	20	9	29
Other Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	11	17	28
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	11	21	32
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	21	25	46
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					96	122	218

The table below shows comparisons for the years 1955-59 between birth and death rates in England and Wales :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>		<i>Fylde Rural District</i>	
	<i>Births</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1955	15.0	11.7	14.3	9.9
1956	15.7	11.7	17.8	11.1
1957	16.1	11.5	19.0	12.3
1958	16.4	11.7	18.1	15.5
1959	16.5	11.6	21.1	11.3

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

PERSONNEL

Medical Officer of Health : C. Robertson Wilson, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (EDIN.).

Other Appointments held : Medical Officer of Health, Boroughs of Lytham St. Annes, and Fleetwood. Urban Districts of Poulton-le-Fylde, Kirkham, Thornton Cleveleys and Preesall. Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Division No. 3, Lancashire County Council.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. Graham, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

T. B. Berry, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.I.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

For general cases the main hospitals used are the Preston Royal Infirmary of the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee, and the Blackpool Victoria, Wesham Park, and Lytham St. Annes Hospitals of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee. Infectious diseases are admitted to the Devonshire Road Hospital, Blackpool, excepting in the case of Tuberculosis which go to Elswick Sanatorium. Accommodation for Smallpox is provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board at the Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, near Bury.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service is administered by the Lancashire County Council. Ambulance Stations in No. 3 Health Division of the Lancashire County are located at Wesham, St. Annes, Thornton and Fleetwood. The service is now a part of Radio-control Area No. 3 of the County Ambulance Service and controlled from Broughton House, near Preston.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological examinations of specimens are carried out at the laboratories of the Blackpool Victoria Hospital and the Preston Royal Infirmary. The latter laboratory is also used for the examination of water and milk samples.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME

General nursing cases and confinements are attended by District Nurses and Midwives of the Lancashire County Council.

VENEREAL DISEASE SERVICE

Facilities for treatment of Venereal Disease are available at Blackpool Victoria Hospital and Preston Royal Infirmary.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND OTHER CLINICS. FYLDE AREA OF LANCASHIRE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND SCHOOL MEDICAL CLINIC

Clinics of the County Council, held in the Rural District, at the time of preparation of this report, are as follows :—

Freckleton—Methodist Sunday School

Monday	...	p.m.	C.W.C.
		p.m.	Immunisation (Fourth Monday in each month).
		p.m.	Vaccination (Third Monday in each month).

Singleton—Church Hall.

Monday	...	p.m.	C.W.C. (First and third Monday in each month).
--------	-----	------	--

Salwick—Social Centre, Ministry of Supply.

Wednesday...	p.m.	C.W.C. (First and third Wednesday in each month).
	p.m.	Immunisation (Third Wednesday in each month).
	p.m.	Vaccination (Third Wednesday in each month).

Staining.

Monday	...	p.m.	C.W.C. (2nd and 4th Monday in each month). (M.O. 4th Monday only).
--------	-----	------	--

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

A total of 92 samples was obtained in the Fylde Rural District during 1959, consisting of 71 samples of milk (two of which were of Channel Island milk) and 21 others, comprising :

1 Arrowroot	4 Mineral water
1 Headache tablets	1 Double cream
1 Coffee & Chicory extract	1 Fruit juice
2 Fruit—dried	2 Epsom salts
1 Glycerin	1 Codeine tablets
1 Ice-cream	1 Liquid paraffin
1 Christmas pudding	1 Mincemeat
1 Glace fruit	1 Lard

The samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst, and, with the exception of those detailed below, were reported by him to be genuine :—

<i>Type</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
Milk (F)	Fat 2.95%, deficient 1.6% fat. Low in solids-not-fat.	} Same vendor. Farmer notified.
Milk (F)	Fat 2.85%, deficient 5% fat	
Milk (F)	Fat 2.70%, deficient 10% fat. Freezing point indicated 1.1% of extraneous water.	} Same vendor. Farmer cautioned and further samples obtained.
Milk (I)	Fat 2.70%, deficient 10% fat. Freezing point indicated 0.6% of extraneous water.	
Glycerin	Contained 0.9% excess water.	Packers had gone into liquidation. Stocks withdrawn.

<i>Type</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
Milk (F)	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.5% of extraneous water.	Same vendor. Farmer cautioned and further samples obtained.
Milk (I)	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.5% of extraneous water.	
Milk (F)	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.8% of extraneous water.	Further to C.2596/7. Farmer interviewed and cautioned.
Milk (F)	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.5% of extraneous water.	
Double Cream	Cream contained 2 parts per million formaldehyde. Carton yielded 820 parts per million formaldehyde. Formaldehyde is not permitted in cream.	Vendor informed. Manufacturers of cartons written to.

Five "Appeal-to-Cow" samples were obtained and, whilst all were of "genuine" milk, three were poor in fat content. The farmer was interviewed.

				<i>Ac.</i>		<i>Food</i>	
				<i>Pneumonia</i>		<i>Poisoning</i>	
				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Under 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	2	2
5—14 years	...	...	...	—	—	1	1
15—44 years	...	...	...	6	—	20	16
45—64 years	...	...	...	—	1	13	2
65 and over	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Total all ages	...	...	...	7	1	36	21

Other notifiable diseases —

Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1 Female
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1 Male (15-44 years)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1959)

Numbers originally notified Total (all ages)	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles ex. Rubella		Dysentery		Meningococ- cal Infection	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Paralytic		Non-paral'tic		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
					M.	F.	M.	F.						
Final numbers after correction under 1 year .. ..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	7	..	2	..	..
Years														
1— .. ..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	16	10	1	2	..	..
2—	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	17	24	1	2	..	..
3— .. ..	..	..	4	3	..	..	..	..	21	17	1	2	..	..
4— .. ..	..	..	2	6	..	..	..	..	25	18	2	..	..	..
5—9	4	6	6	7	..	..	..	..	85	67	3	3	..	1
10—14 .. ..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	5	4	1	2	..	..
15—24 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25 and over .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	5	9	..	..
Age unknown .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	2	..	..
Total (all ages) ..	8	6	22	21	..	..	..	..	184	150	14	24	..	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

A Tuberculosis service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board, the Lancashire County Council, and the District Council. The Hospital Board is responsible mainly for treatment, the County Council for prevention, care and after-care, and the Sanitary Authority for prevention.

A Tuberculosis Health Visitor is provided by the Lancashire County Council, and Hospital and Chest Clinic facilities by the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee.

The incidence of Tuberculosis has been very low — only six cases notified, three pulmonary and three non-pulmonary. No deaths occurred during the year.

It is gratifying to note the declining toll of this grave disease.

<i>Numbers originally notified</i>		<i>Tuberculosis Meninges &</i>					
		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>C.N.S.</i>		<i>Other</i>	
		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Under 5 years	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	... ..	—	—	I	—	—	—
15—24 years	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44 years	... ..	—	I	I	—	—	I
45—64 years	... ..	I	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	... ..	I	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages)	... ..	2	I	2	—	—	I

Yours faithfully,

C. ROBERTSON WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Fylde Rural District Council

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
WESHAM.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Fylde Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour and pleasure to submit to you my fourteenth Annual Report upon the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department; the report being for the year ending 31st December, 1959.

Happily there was no change of staff during the year and I should like at the outset to express my thanks to Mrs. Kirkham for the pleasant and willing manner in which she has dealt with office matters, and to my colleague, Mr. Berry, for his help and support, and for the efficient and yet tactful manner in which he carries out his duties. In these days of "I'm alright Jack!" the way in which all departments come to each others aid as the need arises is worthy of mention.

In the report for 1958 it was stated that, for one reason or another, the slum clearance programme had not been proceeded with, but the hope was expressed that the lee-way might be made up in 1959. Unfortunately this did not materialise. Only 24 houses were built by the local authority and it was possible to deal only with three clearance areas comprising some 15 houses. At the time of writing there are approximately 95 unfit houses still to be dealt with, and experience of the last two years precludes any attempt at forecasting when the programme will be completed.

At the coming into operation of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, it was reasonable to expect a noticeable increase in the number of applications for improvement grants.

However, this did not arise and up to the end of the year 17 applications for discretionary grants were received and 16 applications for standard grants were dealt with. Of these, ten discretionary improvements and six standard improvements had been completed.

Comments, where necessary, upon the various aspects of the work dealt with are contained in the appropriate sections of the report.

Details for the year 1959, are set out below and the following is a summary of the visits made :—

Inspections (details below)	...	...	1,540
Re-visits	...	...	306
Informal notices served	...	...	72
Statutory notices served	...	...	7
Legal Proceedings	...	...	1
Defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	72
Defects or nuisances abated	...	...	35

Inspections and re-visits in connection with :—

Public Health Act.

Dwelling-houses on complaint	...	...	71
Drains and Sewers	...	...	136
Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	65
Dustbins	...	...	146
Infectious Diseases	...	...	63
Inns, Restaurants, etc.	...	...	10
Keeping of animals	...	...	23
Offensive accumulations	...	...	19
Smoke (observations, etc.)	...	...	2
Insect Pests	...	...	21
Moveable dwellings	...	...	193

Housing Acts.

Individual Unfit Houses	...	...	87
Improvement Grants	...	...	67
Houses in Clearance Areas	...	...	35

Factories Acts.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	32
Others	...	...	...	...	50

Food and Drugs Acts.

Food Premises	119
Stalls and vehicles	...	...	...	...	3
Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	117
Sampling	...	...	...	...	24
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	4
Brucellosis	...	...	...	...	23
Waste Foods Order	...	...	...	...	16

Miscellaneous.

Shops Acts...	...	...	...	...	142
Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	219
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	106
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	67

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

Three slaughterhouses are licensed in the district, but only one is in use. The Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959, appointed the 2nd November, 1959, as the earliest day which local authorities may submit their reports to the Minister about the slaughterhouse requirements of their districts. These reports have to be made during the 12 months after the appointed day, i.e., not later than the 2nd November, 1960.

All the animals slaughtered for human consumption were inspected and details of meat and other food-stuffs are set out below. The number of slaughtermen licensed at the end of the year was 17. The number of visits made in connection with food inspection was 117.

Meat Inspection: Carcasses inspected and condemnations

		Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	.. ..	102	..	..	422	17	..
Number inspected	.. ..	102	..	..	422	17	..
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—							
Whole carcasses condemned	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.. ..	17	..	..	5	..	..
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	.. ..	16.6%	..	..	1.2%	..	..
Tuberculosis only—							
Whole carcasses condemned	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.. ..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.. ..	1.9%	..	..	..	..	..
Cysticercosis—							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	.. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Generalised and totally condemned	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Food Stocks condemned :

				<i>cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned Ham	...	...	...	1	12	0
Canned Corned Beef	...	...	...	—	18	0
Sheep Livers	...	...	...	—	8	0
Bovine Lungs	...	...	...	—	20	0
Bovine Livers	...	...	...	1	66	0
Bovine Heads	...	...	...	—	50	0
Total weight				3	62	0

There are eight bakers and/or confectioners operating in the district. Routine inspections were made and no formal action was necessary. 126 visits were made to food premises of all kinds. 42 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. Of these, 35 sell wrapped ice cream, five sell loose ice cream, and two sell both loose and wrapped ice cream. Three premises are registered and used for the manufacture of ice cream, all of which use the hot-mix method of production. 30 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination five of which did not give entirely satisfactory results.

Five premises are registered and used for the manufacture and sale of sausage, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food. One premise closed down during the year. Regular routine inspections were made and no cause for action was discovered.

The number of food premises by type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows :—

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>No.</i>
General grocers and provision dealers ...	35
Greengrocers and fruiterers	17
Fishmongers	2
Meat shops	8

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>No.</i>
Bakers and/or confectioners	8
Fried fish shops	6
Sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream	17
Licensed premises, clubs, restaurants, Cafes	48
Miscellaneous	48
Others	48

Ten distributors of milk were registered as operating from dairies within the district, and four from shops in the district other than dairies.

The number of Dealers' licences including supplementary licences issued by the local authority during 1959 was as follows :—

“ Tuberculin Tested ” milk	21
Pasteurised milk	28
Sterilised milk	13

One sample of raw milk, four of pasteurised and one of sterilised milk were submitted for examination and all were satisfactory to their appropriate tests.

One hundred and eighty three samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination for the *Brucella abortus* organism. Eleven of these were positive. Notice was served upon one milk producer requiring milk to be efficiently heat-treated before sale for human consumption. A separate and long report upon the practical difficulties and frustrations in connection with Brucellosis could be written, but the Council have from time to time received reports in Committee upon this matter and there is no need to repeat those reports here.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

FACTORIES

There were 63 factories on the register at 31st December, 1959. 85 inspections were made. No defects were found and no formal action was necessary. With about four exceptions, the factories are mainly of the small owner-occupied type. Further extensions of large factories at Salwick and Warton commenced during the year and the district seems reasonably assured of a steady source of employment.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number and various types of sanitary accommodation are set out in the table below.

			1958	1959
No. of middens	...	...	77	77
No. of pail closets	...	...	400	400
No. of fresh water closets	...	...	3,455	3,546
No. of moveable ashbins	...	...	3,743	3,834
No. of houses on water carriage (estimated)	...	...	3,396	3,487

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

The Council undertakes the weekly collection of house refuse and salvage in all parishes in the district. Contracts for additional collections on R.A.F. sites ended, these being taken over by private enterprise. The expected acquisition of the Whinbrick site as a permanent site for refuse disposal did not materialise, but there is every reason to believe that this will take place in 1960.

The Council purchased its first refuse vehicle of the dual-tip type, and it has proved to be eminently satisfactory for its purpose. The very low loading line obviates unnecessary lifting strain upon the workmen, and the amount of refuse per load is considerably increased.

The present establishment consists of one 12 cu. yd. Ford Diesel; two 10-12 cu. yd. Karrier Gamecocks, Petrol; and one 12 cu. yd. Karrier Diesel. One 7 cu. yd. Karrier Petrol wagon is held in reserve for special collections, breakdowns and other emergencies. Experience has shown that the miles per gallon of fuel used by the diesel engines is almost exactly double the number of miles per gallon obtained by the petrol powered wagon. 18 men including four drivers are employed

upon refuse collection ; one man is engaged as salvage baler and relief refuse collector ; and the tips are controlled by an attendant working with a Ferguson tractor.

Day to day supervision is exercised by a foreman under the control of the Chief Public Health Inspector. In November the Council's foreman, Mr. J. Bamber, retired after more than thirty years service with the Council. His retirement was marked by the presentation to him on behalf of the Council and staff of a silver tea service. Mr. Bamber's position was filled by the promotion of the Council's senior driver, Mr. T. Swan.

Waste paper continued to be sold to Thames Board Mills. Salvage disposed of and its cash value was as follows :—

110 tons 7 cwts. 1 qr. ... £908 2s. 8d.

This is an increase of 14 tons and a cash value increase of £110 9s. 1d. over last year. The increase can be attributed to the purchase and bringing into service of an additional salvage trailer.

At the end of the year the Council were operating small tips at Larbreck, Weeton, Moss Side and Staining. It is hoped that the new proposed central tip at Whinbrick will be available before these small tips are filled.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

1959 will no doubt be remembered in the caravan world as the *Cater v. Essex* year. Of more significance I think, was the survey and enquiry undertaken for the Government by Sir Aarton Wilson into the whole question of residential caravanning. The day must surely be not far distant when new, workable legislation in connection with moveable dwellings is on the statute book.

One successful prosecution was taken against a licensed site operator for stationing more than the permitted number of caravans on the site. The site was soon put in order, as were others after service of formal notices pointing out contraventions of various kinds. The most common offence was that mentioned, of exceeding the permitted number of caravans

on licensed sites. This makes peculiar reading in face of the often repeated assertion in planning enquiries that there were vacancies on sites in the area during the holiday season. On a survey of all sites in the district made in August, of the 26 which are fully authorised under planning and public health, it was necessary to serve notices in respect of six sites where the permitted numbers had been exceeded. On the remaining 20 sites vacancies for two caravans were noted at the time of inspection on a large site at Singleton.

Efforts are being made during the close season to secure the reduction of caravans on all sites to their permitted number. Although the one legal action taken was successful, similar action which might have been taken in respect of other sites was deferred due to uncertainties and indeterminations of the planning position.

As in previous years, danger to public health did not arise from any of the properly authorised licensed sites ; rather did it arise from the extraordinary outburst of unauthorised caravanning and camping—due no doubt to the exceptionally fine and long summer. A green field on Friday morning could become a sea of tents and caravans by Friday evening. Interviews with campers and caravanners revealed that this “rough camping” was not, in the main, undertaken by choice, but was forced upon them as the hours of darkness fell and they had failed to secure a pitch on any authorised site with proper sanitary and water facilities.

There are 39 sites licensed for moveable dwellings ranging in size from one caravan to over 200 caravans. 19 individual caravans are also licensed. It is estimated that the number of camping residents during the season was in the region of 5,700 persons—no small problem for the Council’s refuse collection service. 193 visits were made to or in connection with caravan sites.

WATER SUPPLY

The number of houses on a mains supply of water is estimated to be 4,103. The number of new connections during the year was 108. The position in the various Parishes is set out in the table on Page 22 :—

WATER SUPPLIES TO HOUSES

PARISH	(a) No. of houses newly connected to public mains supply during 1959		(b) Supply to all houses at end of year					
	Existing houses	New houses	From public mains				From private supplies, <i>e.g.</i> , wells, springs, etc.	
			Direct to houses		By means of standpipe		No. of dwelling-houses	Esti. No. of population
			No. of dwelling-houses	Esti. No. of population	No. of dwelling-houses	Esti. No. of population		
Bryning-with Warton	15	607	2080	..	..	3	9
Elswick	121	470	..	..	3	7
Little Eccleston	1	69	293	..	..	4	14
Freckleton	53	778	3560	..	..	4	10
Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	129	450	..	..	2	4
Hardhorn-with-Newton	10	298	910	..	..	2	7
Medlar-with-Wesham	6	613	2388	..	..	..	..
Newton-with-Clifton	9	486	1777	..	..	..	..
Ribby-with-Wrea	1	240	814	..	..	..	..
Singleton	5	214	695	..	..	1	4
Treales, Roseacre and Wharles	..	1	103	453	..	..	1	4
Weeton-with-Preese	2	242	846	..	..	1	3
Westby-with-Plumpton	5	213	805	..	..	..	..
TOTAL — Whole District	..	108	4103	15541	..	..	21	62

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There has been no change in the district during 1959. Several schemes for sewers and sewage disposal are at varying stages of preparation, some of which may commence during 1960. The methods of sewerage and sewage disposal were set out in some detail in last year's report and there is no need to repeat them here.

SCHOOLS

There are 14 schools in the area of the Council and the sanitary condition of schools at the end of the year was as follows :—

Number with unsatisfactory yard surfaces	...	1
Number with fresh water closets	... ..	13
Number with waste water closets	... ..	—
Number with trough closets	... ..	—
Number with pail closets	... ..	1
Number drained to public sewers	... ..	6
Number drained to private treatment works	...	7
Number of schools with moveable dustbins	...	14
Number of schools with mains supply of water	...	14
Number of schools with unsatisfactory washing facilities		7

The schools meals facilities at Warton C. of E. School were brought up to standard ; others remain unsatisfactory, but are likely to be dealt with progressively in accordance with the Education Departments programme referred to last year.

RODENT CONTROL

The duties of part-time Rodent Operator are undertaken by the foreman of the Health Department. The new foreman attended a course of instruction shortly after he took up his new post. No large infestations of rats or mice were reported or found during the year. The contract service formerly provided by the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee for agricultural properties has ceased. Fortunately the redundant operators in this area have formed themselves into a private company and are continuing in almost every case the work which they carried out for the Executive Committee.

The Council's sewers were test baited with negative results and no further treatments were necessary. Other premises treated consisted of 28 dwelling houses, seven busi-

ness premises and one agricultural property. The service to dwelling houses continued to be given free of charge and business premises were charged on a time and materials basis.

It is estimated that there are 4,901 properties in the district, being comprised of 4,103 houses ; four local authority properties, 537 business premises and 257 agricultural premises. 51 inspections were made at dwelling houses ; 27 at agricultural properties ; and 141 to all other types of property. No statutory action was necessary during the year.

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(i) By the local authority ...	...	...	...	24
(ii) By other local authorities ...	...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	...	84

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	104
---	-----

(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	208
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :—

(a) No. found during year	Nil
-------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

(b) No. (or estimated No.) at end of year ...	128
---	-----

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ...	50
--	----

2. Houses Demolished —

IN CLEARANCE AREAS :	Houses De- molished	Displaced during Year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation..	15	14	4
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. . . . .	..	..	..
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 ..	1	..	..
NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS :			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957 .. . . .	..	3	3
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health .. . . .	..	..	..
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts .. . . .	..	..	..
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders .. . . .	..	..	..

3. Unfit Houses Closed —

	Number	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	2	7	1
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 .. . . .	..	..	..
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ..	..	..	..

4. Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied —

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority	14	—
(2) After formal notice under :		
(a) Public Health Acts	3	..
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957 .. . . .	..	..
(3) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 .. . . .	..	—

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957) —

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
POSITION AT END OF YEAR :		
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation —		
(a) Under Section 48
(b) Under Section 17(2)
(c) Under Section 46
(2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 and 53	—

6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement —

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in Col. (1) (2)
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year

7. Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 — Improvement grants, etc. —

Action during year :	Private Bodies or Individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	17	19	....	....
(b) Approved by local authority	17	19	....	....
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .. ..	..	..	..	..
(d) Finally approved by Ministry .. ..	....	....	....	....
(e) Work completed	10	13	....	....
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above ..				
	Nil		Nil	

8. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 —
Standard Grants —

ACTION DURING YEAR :				No. of Schemes	No. of dwellings or other buildings affected
(a)	Submitted to local authority	..		16	16
(b)	Approved by local authority	..		15	15
(c)	Work completed	..	..	6	6

Yours faithfully,

H. GRAHAM,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

